

## Draft Definition

### Ecosystem Water Quality Parameter of Concern

Following is a draft definition of what constitutes a parameter of concern to ecosystem water quality. The purpose of this definition is to provide a rationale for specifying and prioritizing actions for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. Please review the following definition and questions and fax your comments back to me at 924-9102 by end of day Tuesday, September 24. Thank you in advance for your input.

A parameter is of concern to ecosystem water quality providing:

1. there are reliable data with adequate QA/QC;
2. the data results show that concentrations are above the criteria.  
Criteria used being one or more of the following
  - the Central Valley Basin Plan, San Francisco Bay Basin Plan, or US EPA water quality objectives
  - Dep't of Health Services MCL's
  - sediment criteria in dredging permits
  - Dep't of Health Services consumption levels;
3. there is a problem in a medium - water, sediment or tissue according to bona fide literature.

#### *Questions for team-*

*What constitutes adequate QA/QC and is information on QA/QC available?*

*How often and by how much does criteria have to be exceeded to be of concern?*

*Should the criteria be used on a location specific basis or should the most stringent criteria apply systemwide?*

*How do we identify when data are no longer relevant? (i.e. parameter is no longer of concern because control measures have been instituted - is this only relevant for non-bioaccumulative parameters?)*

*Are there any other criteria that should be used?*